



AQUATIC INVASIVE SPECIES NEWS

8/8/14

DREISSENID MUSSELS

[Manitoba: Still No Zebra Mussels \(7/22/14\)](#)

Manitoba Conservation says there's every indication Lake Winnipeg is still free of zebra mussels. Fish biologist Loreen Yanis told News at Noon with Kathy Kennedy recent testing for veligers, the microscopic stage of zebra mussels came back favourable.

Further information from Manitoba Conservation can be found [HERE](#)

[Meet the Invasive Pest Fueling Lake Erie's Toxic Algae Bloom \(8/6/14\)](#)

A toxic bloom in Lake Erie—which forced the city of Toledo to turn off its tap water for two days this weekend—was exacerbated by another environmental calamity: hordes of invasive mussels that plague the Great Lakes ecosystem.

[Zebra Mussels Move Into Denton Water System, TX \(7/31/14\)](#)

.....City workers put a camera in the pipeline, where the city pulls its raw water out of Lake Ray Roberts, and found 80-percent of it covered in zebra mussels. That discovery prompted them to submerge another camera by the water treatment plant. That video showed that 20-percent of the pipeline was covered. To keep water flowing, Denton city leaders were told Thursday that money is needed to fund four cleanup and mussel control projects.....

[Preventing an aquatic invasion, Alberta \(7/31/14\)](#)

.....In order to prevent aquatic invasive species from growing in Alberta, the government is asking recreational boaters to be aware of the issue, to inspect and to clean

their water craft when travelling from another body of water, from another province, or from the States.....

[TX: Rains give scant relief to lakes in fast-growing system \(7/21/14\)](#)

.....But the district's lakes have been harder hit than other water utilities' reservoirs, largely because of the third part of the trifecta, the loss of 28 percent of the total water supply for five years after invasive zebra mussels were found in Lake Texoma.....

[BC, feds working to hold back mussel invasion \(7/22/14\)](#)

.....Under the proposal, Canada Border Service Agencies will have the ability to enforce prohibitions at the Canadian border, which means turning back boats that have the invasive quagga or zebra mussels on them.....

[Minnesota DNR says invasive zebra mussels put limits on muskie stocking \(7/18/14\)](#)

ST. PAUL, Minnesota — The Minnesota Department of Natural Resources is making some changes to its muskie stocking program after zebra mussels were found in a Becker County lake.

[Central Arizona Project: Cave Creek Facing Expensive Invasive Mussel Removal \(7/21/14\)](#)

Quagga mussels have made their way into Cave Creek water pumps, which may cost the town thousands of dollars to get rid of. The mussels are an invasive and non-native species to Arizona.

[Zebra Mussels Confirmed at Offutt Base Lake \(7/28/14\)](#)

LINCOLN, NE — The presence of invasive zebra mussels has been confirmed at Offutt Base Lake near Bellevue. On May 1, Dr. Dan James of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service in Pierre, SD, discovered live adult zebra mussels in Offutt Base Lake, while checking rocks in the shallow water. This discovery was confirmed by the Nebraska Game and Parks Commission and the Nebraska Invasive Species Program...

[Lake Huron fishery recovers, but anglers skeptical \(7/26/14\)](#)

...But chinook numbers nosedived when their main prey, the alewife, collapsed in the early 2000s, which scientists attributed to invasive zebra and quagga mussels that arrived from Europe in cargo ship ballast tanks. The filter-feeding mussels gorged on phytoplankton — microscopic plants at the base of the aquatic food chain — causing alewives to go hungry....

[Quagga mussel being found in Cave Creek water pumps \(7/21/14\)](#)

The quagga mussel, feared by Salt River Project and Central Arizona Project officials for the damage it can do in clogging waterways and delivery devices, has been building up monthly in the town of Cave Creek's water pumps.

[Statewide Volunteer Efforts Kick Off 2014 California Invasive Species Action Week \(7/31/14\)](#)

.....People can also volunteer to “inspect” a local waterbody for quagga and zebra mussels and submit their findings to CDFW on its website by going [HERE](#)

[East Kootenay, BC Invasive mussel pilot project a success \(8/7/14\)](#)

.....The Canada Border Services Agency allowed the teams to set up at two East Kootenay borders. Larson said that despite the aquatic invasive species being provincial, not federal, jurisdiction, border services were receptive to the idea of having the stations set up just after travellers cross into Canada.....

[Invasive species prevention and control at Lake Tahoe \(7/31/14\)](#)

.....Programs to manage and attempt to rid the lake of these species have been largely successful, and TRPA is researching more ways to handle them. The biggest issue is funding, though, because the federal funding is drying up, and boater’s fees cover about half of the overall cost of the inspection and control programs.....

California: Quagga and Zebra Mussel Infestation Prevention Fee (8/1/14)

On August 1, 2014, California State Parks Division of Boating and Waterways, submitted a “Notice of Proposed Rulemaking” for publication. Publication of this notice will be the start of the 45-day public comment period. All comments should be directed to the person listed on the notice by the end of the 45-day comment period. Further information can be found at the links below:

- o [Notice of Proposed Rulemaking](#)
- o [Proposed Text](#)
- o [Initial Statement of Reason](#)

[OK: GRDA Reminds Boaters About Zebra Mussel Threat On Grand And Hudson Lakes \(8/4/14\)](#)

LANGLEY, Oklahoma - The Grand River Dam Authority is again reminding boaters and residents about an aquatic nuisance, the zebra mussel. The GRDA says the mussel has been found in Grand and Hudson lakes since 2008, but have been a problem for the nation's waterways since 1988.....

Zebra mussel control using Zequanox in an Irish waterway (June 2014)

Due to the invasion of zebra and quagga mussels in European and North American waters, there is a need for an environmentally benign mussel control method to replace chlorine and other currently used control products. Zequanox® is a natural product comprised of *Pseudomonas fluorescens* strain CL145A, which effectively controls zebra and quagga mussels. The objective of this study was to demonstrate an effective method of zebra mussel control in inland waterways using Zequanox. Water quality was monitored to determine any negative impacts and to observe product dispersion. A curtain made of an impermeable material was placed in the Grand Canal at Tullamore Harbour sealing off two 8 x 0.5 m sections of canal wall under the bridge, and a control site was chosen further down the docking area. Both sections were treated with Zequanox at a concentration of 150 mg active substance/L for an 8 hour treatment period. Water quality was monitored in the treatment area and in the selected control area before, during, and after treatment. Naturally settled and seeded adult zebra mussels were observed for mortality in the treatment and control areas and juveniles were monitored for survival in both the treatment and control areas. Naturally settled adult mussel numbers were reduced by approximately 46% in treatment side 1, and 65% in treatment side 2, seeded adult mussel mortality reached 75% in treatment side 1 and 56% in treatment side 2. These results demonstrate that under the optimum conditions Zequanox effectively controls zebra mussels in open water.

A Watershed Moment - Great Lakes at a Crossroads

Since 2003, Dan Egan, *Milwaukee Journal Sentinel*, “has been reporting on threats facing the Great Lakes. His groundbreaking work has shown the damage caused by invasive species and has laid out the bold steps that could be taken to restore and protect the world’s largest freshwater system.” Read more in the featured stories below:

[How invasive species changed the Great Lakes forever](#)

June 1, 1988, is the day everything changed for the Great Lakes — the day it began to dawn on researchers that the lakes were in for a massive invasion.

[Formidable invasive species won't be easy to keep out of Great Lakes](#)

How do you protect the Great Lakes from being invaded by exotic organisms hitchhiking in the bowels of overseas freighters? With great difficulty.

[Park chief put foot down on invasive species. Can others follow suit?](#)

A national park superintendent issued a tough edict to the park’s Lake Superior ferry captain: Shape up the ship, or don’t sail. Can the government do the same?

[Leaping out of the lakes: Invasive mussels spread across America](#)

How quagga mussels put a serious bite on a Wisconsin man moving a boat across the West.

And a follow-up editorial from MJS:

[Close the Great Lakes to oceangoing vessels \(8/1/14\)](#)

.....Both the "back" and the "front" doors to the lakes must be closed. The most effective answer to the problem of contaminated ballast water from oceangoing vessels is to prevent those ships from entering the lakes until a better solution is found.....

BOAT INSPECTION NEWS

[Webinar: Clean, Drain, and Dry!](#)

This Environmental Law Institute sponsored webinar will introduce new legal tools and collaborative approaches to prevent the spread of AIS via recreational boats, which are a major pathway for the spread of invasive mussels and other AIS. Speakers will discuss state, industry, and environmental perspectives on the “building consensus” approach used to develop and implement legal tools to address this pathway in the western US. In addition, speakers will address other industry efforts at the national level to minimize risks associated with aquatic hitchhikers and recreational boating. (**8/18**, 2:00-4:00 PM EDT). Go [HERE](#) to register.

[Sniffer dogs to keep invasive mussels out of Alberta waterways \(8/6/14\)](#)

Sniffer dogs are being deployed at check points near lakes and rivers around the province in a bid to keep invasive mussels out of Alberta's waterways.....

[AZ: Obey the law and stop the spread of Aquatic Invasive Species, or get a citation \(7/29/14\)](#)

The Arizona Game and Fish Department (AZGFD) reminds boaters to do their part in preventing the spread of Aquatic Invasive Species (AIS) in Arizona waters and preventing damage to their own watercraft. To protect Arizona lakes, rivers and streams from the devastating effects of invasive species, Arizona laws require boaters and anglers to clean, drain and dry their boats and pull the boat's plug when leaving an AIS-affected lake.....

[FWP Roadside Check Stations Find Illegal Live Fish in Boats \(7/25/14\)](#)

At least nine trailered boats checked recently at Montana's roadside watercraft inspection stations have been found to be transporting live fish, which is illegal in Montana's Western and Central Fishing Districts.

[Alberta TV: Check out the on Michael Short's *Let's Go Outdoors* show: \(6/26/14\)](#)

Two minute vignette on Alberta's new roadside inspection program designed to check boats for any unwanted hitchhikers like Zebra Mussels. If you are bringing your boat

back into Alberta from an out-of-province fishing trip you will need to know about these critters. Economic and environmental impacts of these species can be enormous.....

[MN: Centralized county inspection plan considered for invasives \(7/24/14\)](#)

Carver County officials gathered July 22 to begin mapping out the future of an aquatic invasive species inspection program and to determine how to allocate additional state funding dedicated to the program. County commissioners considered a plan for 2015 that would include centralized inspection sites, which would require boaters to complete an inspection at a designated site before proceeding to area lakes.....

[MT: AIS Boat Inspection Stations continue to keep unwanted pests out of waterways \(7/17/14\)](#)

RONAN — The Aquatic Invasive Species (AIS) Boat Inspection Station is up and fully running. This is the first year of mandatory boat inspection. All boaters, including any watercrafts, traveling northbound on Hwy 93 will be required to stop in at the AIS boat inspection station. Since Memorial Day weekend, Montana Fish, Wildlife and Park employees have been deterring the spread of invasive species such as zebra and quagga mussels and eurasian watermilfoil.....

[Partnerships fundamental to protecting Tahoe \(7/18/14\)](#)

I often speak about the importance of partnerships in this column and once again circumstances have proven the value of our collective teamwork and collaboration. Last week, the multi-sector partnership of the aquatic invasive species program prevented a boat from entering the lake that had quagga mussels and snail shells hidden within mud on the anchor....

[Alberta: Don't Miss the Boat: How to Ditch Invasive Mussels](#)

So you bought a boat...in the United States...and got a great deal! You're driving it back to Alberta. There is a boat inspection station. You wonder if you need to stop. You wonder what could happen if you don't...

MARINE

[Science underpinning the thresholds proposed in the CRMS: Biofouling on vessels arriving to New Zealand \(8/7/14\)](#)

Biofouling is recognised as a significant pathway for introduction of non-indigenous marine species into New Zealand. This document presents the science that underpins the thresholds proposed in the Craft Risk Management Standard (CRMS): Biofouling on Vessels Arriving to New Zealand.

[Marine Pest Provides Advances in Maritime Anti-fouling \(7/30/14\)](#)

A team of biologists, led by Clemson University associate professor Andrew S. Mount, performed cutting-edge research on a marine pest that will pave the way for novel anti-fouling paint for ships and boats and also improve bio-adhesives for medical and industrial applications.....

[Buying a ballast water treatment system is the easy part \(8/4/14\)](#)

The biggest challenge for ballast water treatment systems at the moment is meeting US Coast Guard requirements for testing, but owners will soon have their share of challenges too, says Wendy Laursen.....

[Japanese shipping company fined \\$15,600 by DEQ for ballast water violations in Portland \(7/31/14\)](#)

Merchant ship La Bamba' discharged ballast water illegally to Willamette River, causing an increased risk for introduction of aquatic invasive species.....

WEEDS

Lake Pend Oreille Aquatic Invasive Species / Terrestrial Noxious Weed Field Tour

September 10 and 11th Sandpoint, ID. The tour will involve an afternoon tour around Lake Pend Oreille on September 10th to look at native and invasive aquatic plants and aquatic invasive species. Topics will focus on species identification, management projects and survey methods. On the morning of the 11th the tour will observe terrestrial weed projects throughout the area. Topics will include species identification and treatment methods. For more information contact: Thomas.woolf@agri.idaho.gov

[MT: AIS Treatment Effort to Commence for 2014 Field Season: Curlyleaf Pondweed removal project \(7/17/14\)](#)

.....While the Flathead Basin remains free of many of the most problematic AIS, such as zebra and quagga mussels, a select number of aquatic invasive plants have made their way into the Flathead, and pose a threat to both the economic and ecological assets in the Basin. Susan Brueggeman, the Lake County Director of Environmental Health noted, "we are at a critical juncture in terms of fighting aquatic invasive weeds – if our efforts at eradication are to be successful, we must act now."

[Benefits of Controlling Nuisance Aquatic Plants and Algae in the United States \(July 2014\)](#)

Sections of this paper focus on certain parts of the United States, but the general need is obvious--invasive aquatic plants and algae are progressively disrupting the ecological

balance required for maintaining adequate freshwater resources for flora, fauna, and humans. The authors encourage long-term funding, sustained research, and creative problem solving.

FISH

[Project involving anti-carp speakers starts on upper Mississippi River \(8/2/14\)](#)

GENOA, Wis. — A project involving an experimental underwater speaker system designed to repel invasive Asian carp has started at a lock on the Mississippi River near Genoa....

[This Salmon Will Likely Be The First Genetically Modified Animal You Eat \(July 26, 2014\)](#)

A genetically modified salmon, called AquAdvantage, is awaiting FDA approval, and, when it does, the fish should be available for consumption in about two years, according to the company.....

[Durbin Joins Donnelly, Kirk and Great Lakes Senators Urging Action on Asian Carp Threat \(7/31/14\)](#)

.....While disagreements about prevention measures remain, the Asian carp threat persists, and urgent action is needed. The immediate path forward should include a set of short- and medium-term actions, which should be able to garner regional consensus more readily to strengthen protection for the Great Lakes. To facilitate this effort, we understand the Chicago Area Waterway System Advisory Committee is working with regional stakeholders to identify common ground regarding short-, medium-, and long-term efforts to safeguard the Great Lakes from Asian carp and other invasive species.....

[Invasive Species and Salmon: Interactions in the Pacific Northwest \(7/21/14\)](#)

“In the Columbia River system alone, Pacific salmon will encounter no fewer than eight documented non-native predator and competitor fish species en route to the Columbia River estuary,” says Beth Sanderson, aquatic ecologist with NOAA’s Northwest Fisheries Science Center. This is not surprising, considering that one out of every four fish species in the western U.S. streams is non-native.....

[Asian carp swim through federal court on their way to Great Lakes: editorial \(7/20/14\)](#)

Congress needs to go where the federal courts and the White House fear to tread. It must enact legislation that orders the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers to implement the hydrological separation of the Mississippi River and Great Lakes basins. It is the only sure strategy to stop the silver and bighead carp whose threatened invasion of the Great Lakes poses a cataclysmic threat to the lakes' multibillion-dollar commercial fishing and tourism industry and the 800,000 jobs they float.

[Bighead and silver carp discovered in Pool 2 of Mississippi River \(7/21/14\)](#)

Silver and bighead carp are two of four **species** of **invasive** carp threatening the Mississippi River and other native ecosystems. They can grow to 60 ...

[Asian Carp IPM: Demonstration Project on the Illinois River \(video\) \(6/24/14\)](#)

USGS and partners conducted an integrated pest management project on the Illinois River to determine the effectiveness of combining multiple tools in limiting populations of Asian carp...

[Moon River Foods to commercially harvest Asian carp in Mississippi Delta \(7/22/14\)](#)

JACKSON, Mississippi — Gov. Phil Bryant and officials from Moon River Foods announced today the company is locating a new fish processing operation in Baird, Miss., in Sunflower County. The project represents a corporate investment of \$3 million and will create 100 new jobs.

[Lionfish: The ‘breakthrough’ sixth-grade science project at the center of a fight over scientific glory \(7/23/14\)](#)

.....Arrington’s experiment revealed that lionfish — the invasive, venomous species of fish thought to be native to saltwater oceans – could actually survive in nearly freshwater environments, which could potentially damage the marine ecology of estuaries, where salty ocean water and fresh river water mix.....

OTHER

[Assessing Environmental DNA Detection in Controlled Lentic Systems \(July 31, 2014\)](#)

Little consideration has been given to environmental DNA (eDNA) sampling strategies for rare species. The certainty of species detection relies on understanding false positive and false negative error rates. We used artificial ponds together with logistic regression models to assess the detection of African jewelfish eDNA at varying fish densities (0, 0.32, 1.75, and 5.25 fish/m³). Our objectives were to determine the most effective water stratum for eDNA detection, estimate true and false positive eDNA detection rates, and assess the number of water samples necessary to minimize the risk of false negatives.....

CDFWA Newsletter

The Summer 2014 edition of Eye on Invasives, the California Department of Fish and Wildlife's newsletter dedicated to providing information about invasive species in California can be found [here](#) (see Volume 4 Number 2) .

[WGFD finds invasive species in Lake Cameahwait \(7/26/14\)](#)

(Lander, Wyo.) – Wyoming Game and Fish Department would like to inform recreationists and the public that a new population of the invasive New Zealand mudsnail has been found in Lake Cameahwait (Bass Lake).....

USGS animated map on snail spread can be found [HERE](#)

[Opinion: It's Time to Stop Thinking That All Non-Native Species Are Evil \(7/24/14\)](#)

The turtles came from China, starting in the 1850s, brought by sugarcane farmers who liked them as soup. Today, they're endangered in China and considered invasive—the term for [non-native species that cause undesirable effects](#)—in Kauai. But conservationists don't believe the animals are safe from hunting in their home range, so there's little point in boxing them up and sending them back.....

[Report: Countless Invasive Species Detained In EPA Black Sites \(7/25/14\)](#)

WASHINGTON—According to leaked documents obtained this week by members of the press, the Environmental Protection Agency has for the past 15 years operated a network of secret black sites where an unknown number of invasive species are being held indefinitely.....

[Special issue of the journal Diatom Research featuring Didymosphenia geminata is now available](#)

Abstracts are free

[Climate warming may have unexpected impact on invasive species \(8/7/14\)](#)

Rising temperatures may be seen as universally beneficial for non-native species expanding northward, but a Dartmouth College study suggests a warmer world may help some invaders but hurt others depending on how they and native enemies and competitors respond.....

JOBS/RFPS

Colorado Parks and Wildlife: Invasive Species Specialist

Position Title: Invasive Species Specialist
Classification: General Professional III
Job Location: 6060 Broadway, Denver, 80216

Close Date: August 20, 2014 or 100 applications

TO APPLY: [Invasive Species Specialist](#)

Type of Announcement: This position is open only to **Colorado state residents.**

If you have difficulty with the link, please access the State of Colorado' job website at <https://www.colorado.gov/dhr/jobs>

[Montana: Aquatic Invasive Species Coordinator](#)

The Aquatic Invasive Species (AIS) Coordinator manages FWP's AIS program and ensures AIS considerations are integrated into statewide fisheries management plans and operations. The AIS Coordinator is responsible for implementing actions identified in the Montana Aquatic Invasive Species Management Plan and Governor's Blueprint, and in determining the direction, priorities and activities of the AIS program.

Location(s): Helena
Job Status: Full-Time Permanent

Closing Date: 9/2/2014

[WA Invasive Species Council - Executive Coordinator \(WMS 2\)](#)

We are looking for motivated individual to take on the role of the Executive Coordinator of the Washington Invasive Species Council. This individual will lead a council of agencies and organizations tasked with developing and implementing strategies for statewide invasive species protection. Candidates interested in a full-time or a part-time commitment are welcome to apply.

Closes: Fri. 08/15/14 5:00 PM Pacific Time

[WA: Permanent Environmental Specialist 2](#)

This position assists the lead staff for ballast water management in meeting data and compliance objectives for regulating a state, national, and international shipping industry to ensure that the discharge of ballast water poses minimal risk of introducing invasive species into the Puget Sound, Columbia River, and coastal ports. The position must have specialized knowledge of the shipping industry and work effectively with ballast water inspectors, multi-national vessel owners and operators, and federal and state agencies.

Close Date: August 13, 2014

Smith-Root, Inc.: Fish Physiologist / Fish Biologist, Vancouver, Washington, USA

Overview: Develop, manage and assist in applied field and laboratory-based research concerning the conservation of native species and management or control of non-native fish and invertebrates. The successful candidate will work with Smith-Root clients and engineers to address these challenges using Smith-Root technologies and other emerging techniques. The person will work closely with other Smith-Root scientists and project managers to develop proposals, conduct research, analyze data, prepare scientific manuscripts, technical reports, and communicate findings to non-technical and technical audiences. Preferred candidates will have an advanced degree in fish physiology, fisheries biology or a closely related field. Professional biologists with exceptional skill sets and qualifications will also be considered. Experience with fish response to electrical or other stimuli is desirable. Experience conducting and statistically analyzing fish movement studies or experience with acoustic telemetry and animal behavior software is a plus. Candidates with experience with eDNA sampling and analysis will also be considered.

Minimum Qualifications:

- Master's degree and two years' experience conducting fisheries/aquatic organism research
- Demonstrated ability to lead and conduct applied research projects
- Excellent writing and communication skills

Deadline to Apply: September 29, 2014.

Please send cover letter describing your experience and qualifications, curriculum vitae and names of three references to Phil Moy, PhD, Chief Scientist c/o Alecia Malone (amalone@smith-root.com).

LEGISLATION/FEDERAL ACTIONS/BUDGET

[Begich Advances Bill on Incidental Water Discharge \(7/28/14\)](#)

Water discharged from fishing vessels and other marine watercraft is the subject of a new bill that has just advanced out of committee. KDLG's Chase Cavanaugh has more. US Senator Mark Begich announced that [S. 2094](#) has just left the Commerce, Science, and Transportation Committee....

[Standing on the Shore Of Mirror Lake, Gillibrand Discusses Legislation To Prevent Future Invasive Species \(7/28/14\)](#)

Lake Placid, NY – Standing on the shore of Mirror Lake, U.S. Senator Kirsten Gillibrand, a member of the Senate Environment & Public Works Committee, today discusses her comprehensive legislation [[S. 1153](#)] to stop the spread of invasive species and protect New York's waterways. Senator Gillibrand's bill, which was recently the

subject of the key Senate Committee [hearing](#), would protect New York from the threat of invasive species by preventing the importation of potentially harmful species across state lines or into the United States by reforming the broken Lacey Act, which has been ineffective in stopping injurious wildlife, such as Asian clam and Zebra and Quagga mussels, from harming New York's waterways....

[Canada: Liberals to reintroduce Invasive Species Act \(7/25/14\)](#)

The Liberal government has indicated that the Invasive Species Act – which would help the province keep out scourges like the Asian carp – will become law. Bill Mauro, the minister of natural resources, called Asian carp a “serious concern” and pointed to the Liberal-sponsored Invasive Species Act as proof that the government is tackling the problem head-on.

Water Resources Reform and Development Act

On 6/10/2014 President Obama signed the “Water Resources Reform and Development Act” (HR 3080). For further information see <https://www.govtrack.us/congress/bills/113/hr3080/text> and <http://transportation.house.gov/wrrda/conference.htm> . WRRDA language included

“..... the Secretary may establish watercraft inspection stations in the Columbia River Basin [CRB] to be located in the States of Idaho, Montana, Oregon, and Washington at locations, as determined by the Secretary, with the highest likelihood of preventing the spread of aquatic invasive species at reservoirs operated and maintained by the Secretary.”

The next steps for realizing the CRB AIS gains in WRRDA will be in the House and Senate energy and water appropriations committees (where the FY 2015 USACE budget is appropriated). The House on 7/10/14 passed its energy and water appropriations bill, for report language go [HERE](#). [Note: watercraft inspection station language is not in the house bill].

UPDATE SENATE -- On 7/24/14 the Senate released its [FY 2015 Energy and Water Development Subcommittee Reported Bill and Draft Report](#). The subcommittee report references waiting on getting administration WRRDA implementation guidance and building it into their decision-making for FY 2016. Excerpts for the [report](#) language are below:

PAGE 12: The Water Resources Reform and Development Act of 2014:

The Committee notes the enactment of the Water Resources Reform and Development Act of 2014 (WRRDA) on June 10, 2014. The WRRDA provides for changes in the ways that the Corps of Engineers does business and authorizes at least \$16,000,000,000 in new projects and authorities while proposing to deauthorize \$18,000,000,000 of previously

authorized projects. Enactment of the WRRDA, while providing considerable opportunities for new water resources investments, does not provide any additional funding for water resources projects.

The Committee has not yet had the opportunity to determine the full effects of the reforms of the WRRDA since it is unclear how the administration will interpret the language. As the administration's decisions for the fiscal year 2015 budget request were made in the absence of the WRRDA, few of the WRRDA provisions will be a part of this appropriations bill. Implementation guidance for the WRRDA will be developed by the administration in the coming months and it is anticipated that the provisions from this WRRDA bill will be more fully integrated into the fiscal year 2016 budget request. However, some parts of the WRRDA will have immediate impacts, as discussed in the following paragraphs.

PAGE 57: Corps of Engineers, Zebra and Quagga Mussels:

The Committee understands the challenges posed by the invasion of zebra and quagga mussels in various places across the country, and that invasion has not yet occurred in the Pacific Northwest and Lake Tahoe. Given the significant Federal assets in the region, it is prudent to determine the vulnerabilities of the infrastructure. The Committee recognizes that the Corps of Engineers has made significant progress in completing invasive mussel vulnerability assessments at Bonneville, The Dalles, John Day, and Lower Granite dams, and is working on assessments at Libby, Albeni Falls, and Chief Joseph dams. The Committee directs the Corps to initiate and complete assessments at McNary, Ice Harbor, Lower Monumental, Dworshak, and Little Goose dams. The Committee also recognizes that the power share of each of the assessments is reimbursed by the Bonneville Power Administration. Further, the Committee urges the Corps, where appropriate, to assist the States in their efforts to prevent the spread of invasive mussels to Federal projects in the region.

PAGE 75: Bureau of Reclamation, Zebra and Quagga Mussels:

The Committee understands the challenges posed by the invasion of zebra and quagga mussels in various places across the country, and that invasion has not yet occurred in the Pacific Northwest and Lake Tahoe. Given the significant Federal assets in the region, it is prudent to determine the vulnerabilities of the infrastructure. The Committee recognizes that the Bureau of Reclamation has made progress in completing invasive mussel vulnerability assessments at Minidoka, American Falls, Ririe, Island Park, and Jackson Lake dams, and will soon initiate work on assessments at Hungry Horse dam and the Minidoka and Palisades power plants. The Committee directs Reclamation to initiate and complete assessments at Grand Coulee and additional projects. Further, the Committee urges Reclamation to assist the States, where appropriate, in their efforts to prevent the spread of invasive mussels to Federal projects in the region.

FY 2015 Appropriations – What Next?

FY 2015 appropriations process is currently bogged down:

“With appropriation legislation moving smoothly through Congress in May and June, there was early optimism some bills may be presented to the President before the August recess. However, progress on appropriations slowed considerably as the summer progressed with the House having passed seven spending measures and the Senate yet to consider any of the 12 annual spending bills. Therefore, it appears that when Congress returns from August recess, it will pass a continuing resolution to fund the government until after the November elections. Meanwhile, appropriations staff will likely be working behind the scenes to work out the differences between the House and Senate bills that have been introduced to date. Should the House and Senate fail to bridge the gap between their spending priorities, then a year-long continuing resolution funding agencies at current levels is possible.” [Source: *Ocean News Weekly, Program Update: Advocacy – July 2014*]

[U.S. Army Corps of Engineers WRRDA Listening Sessions \(7/29/14\)](#)

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) has issued a [notice](#) stating that it will conduct a series of listening sessions by webinar for public input to inform the agency’s implementation of the Water Resources Reform & Development act of 2014. Sessions will focus on a different aspect of the issue as follows:

Session I (August 13): Deauthorization & Backlog Prevention and on Project Development & Delivery.

Session II (August 27): Alternative Financing and Credits.

Session III (September 10): Levee & Dam Safety and on Regulatory Issues.

Session IV (September 24): Non-Federal Implementation; Water Supply & Reservoir; and Navigation.

MEETINGS

AUGUST

Alberta aquatic invasive plant information/training session

Alberta Lake Management Society (ALMS) is hosting two aquatic invasive plant workshops. Participants will be giving the training and tools needed to survey their lake for aquatic plant species. ALMS will be collecting the data and acting on any reports of invasive species such as Eurasian Watermilfoil.

THURSDAY Aug 14 – Lake Isle Hall – 9:30 am to 2:30 pm.

MONDAY, Aug 18 – Pine Lake Hub – 9:30 am to 2:30 pm.

Lunch is provided - RSVP to acloutie@ualberta.ca

For more information: <http://alms.ca/have-you-seen-this-aquatic-plant/>

SEPTEMBER

[Oregon - Invasive Species Cook-off 2014 - Eradication by Mastication: A](#) benefit for the Institute for Applied Ecology, Sunday, September 28, 2014, 2 pm - 7 pm, Zenith Vineyard (Salem, OR)

Western Regional Panel: The annual meeting of The Western Regional Panel on Aquatic Nuisance Species will be held in Houston September 17-19, 2014. This will be a joint meeting of The WRP and the [Gulf and South Atlantic Panel](#). The Crowne Plaza Downtown is the meeting venue and host hotel. The [WRP website](#) will have more information on hotel reservations and more in the near future.

REGISTRATION OPEN: [Meeting the Challenge: Preventing, Detecting, and Controlling Invasive Plants September 16-17, 2014, University](#) of Washington Botanic Gardens, Seattle, WA.

OCTOBER

The next meeting of the **Columbia River Basin Team** of the 100th Meridian Initiative will be held October 1-2 in Vancouver, Washington. Further details on this meeting will be sent out in the near future on this list serve.

The Alaska Chapter of the American Fisheries Society will be meeting in Juneau, Oct. 20-24. An invasive species session is being planned. Contact Tammy Davis, ADFG, for further information @ tammy.davis@alaska.gov

[The International Invasive Sea Squirt Conference will be held at Woods Hole Oceanographic Institution Wed-Fri Oct 29-31, 2014.](#) Conference Registration Deadline October 1, 2014.

[California Invasive Plant Council Symposium at California State University - Chico, October 8-11, 2014.](#)

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